

URBAN DISTRICT OF NEWPORT PAGNELL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

FOR THE YEAR

1963

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

COUNCILLOR A.A. CLAY

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN

COUNCILLOR S.J. MORLEY.

COUNCILLORS

W.S. HAWKINS,

A.A. CLAY.

F. CRAWLEY,

S.V. INGHAM,

P.V. MASON,

H.A. RANDALL.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. D.H. Waldron, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

D.T.M. & H., Col. I.A.M.C. (Retd.)

(The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for the Borough of Buckingham, the Urban Districts of Bletchley, and Wolverton, the Rural Districts of Buckingham, Newport Pagnell and Winslow, Area Medical Officer for North Bucks. and Divisional School Medical Officer for the North Bucks. Division and Buckingham and Winslow Districts).

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. R. Laslett, M.B., C.H.B., D.P.H.

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

J.F. Hopkin, A.M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Council Offices,
60 High Street,
NEWPORT PAGNELL.

28th July, 1964.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the
Medical Officer of Health for the year 1963.

The Birth Rate shows a satisfactory rise and is now a
point above the County Rate and 2 points above that for
England and Wales.

The Death Rate is up on the previous year, but still
remains more than 2 points below the rate for the rest of
the country. Heart Diseases, Pneumonia and Cancer were the
principal causes of death.

The Infantile Mortality Rate at 11.1 is nearly half the
national rate. There was actually one death in this group.

In the realm of Infectious Disease we were not so lucky
as in 1962. We had an epidemic of Measles, an outbreak of a
mild form of Dysentery, and 2 cases of Typhoid Fever. The
cases of Typhoid rather frightened us, as an epidemic was
going on in Bedford, and these cases were definitely
associated with it. However, much to our relief no
secondary cases occurred.

I should like to pay tribute to Mr. Hopkin for his
hard work over the Dysentery outbreak, and particularly over
the Typhoid cases. His work in tracking down contacts
reminded me of a certain detective on television.

I wish to add that I have had another year of happy
co-operation with your Clerk, Mr. Hall, your Surveyor and
Chief Health Inspector, Mr. Hopkin, and their staffs.

I am, your obedient servant,

DANIEL H. WALDRON,

Medical Officer of Health.

NEWPORT PAGNELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1963.

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962.</u>
Area (in acres)	3,432	3,432
Population	5,000	4,743
Number of Inhabited houses	1,925	1,900
Rateable Value	£234,777	£70,672
Rate per pound	9/10	25/3
Product of a ld. rate	£931	£291

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

Legitimate (males)	41	43
" (females)	45	36
Illegitimate (males)	1	NIL
" (females)	3	NIL
Stillbirths	2	1
Birth rate per 1,000 pop.	20.5	16.7
" " " " (Bucks)	19.2	19.2
" " " " (England and Wales)	18.2	18.0

DEATHS

Males	50	37
Females	53	48
Death rate per 1,000 population	10.0	9.1
" " " " (Bucks)	9.9	9.6
" " " " (England and Wales)	12.2	-

DEATHS (Cont'd).

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>
Maternal Mortality	NIL	NIL
Maternal Mortality (England & Wales)	0.28	0.35
Infantile Mortality (Deaths of infants under 1 year per 1,000 births)	11.1	NIL
Infantile Mortality (Bucks)	17.7	17.9
Infantile Mortality (England & Wales)	20.9	21.4

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

<u>PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH</u>	<u>1963</u>			<u>1962</u>		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Tuberculosis, respiratory	0.	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis, other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infections	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer	5	8	13	5	6	11
Diabetes	0	1	1	0	0	0
Cerebral Haemorrhage	8	6	14	4	6	10
Heart Diseases	21	19	40	14	19	33
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	1	2	2	1	3
Influenza	2	0	2	0	0	0
Pneumonia	6	9	15	7	11	18
Bronchitis	3	1	4	2	1	3
Digestive Diseases	1	0	1	1	0	1
Nephritis	0	1	1	0	0	0
Accidents	1	1	2	0	1	1
Suicide	0	0	0	0	0	0
All other causes.	2	6	8	2	3	5
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
	50	53	103	37	48	85
	<hr/>			<hr/>		

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. LABORATORY SERVICES

The bacteriological work of the District has been carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton. Samples of sewage for chemical analysis were sent to the Analyst, Great Ouse River Board.

2. AMBULANCE SERVICES.

These services are administered by the County Council and are controlled in the North Bucks. Area from a station at Bletchley. In Newport Pagnell three ambulances are maintained, supplemented, if necessary by ambulances from other Districts.

3. NURSING FACILITIES

As in previous years the District Nurses carried on their very excellent and noble work.

4. CLINICS.

Maternity and Child Welfare: This Clinic which is held at the Congregational School on the 1st and 3rd. Wednesdays of each month, is attended by a Medical Officer, Health Visitor District Nurse and of course members of the Voluntary Committee. I should like to pay tribute to these ladies of the Voluntary Committee who give up their spare time to this work. During the year there were 859 attendances by children.

5. HOME HELP.

This service, administered by the County Council, has done very good work since its inception. During the year 49 cases were assisted.

6. ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC

Organised by the Regional Hospital Board. This Clinic meets fortnightly on a Friday.

7. HOSPITALS

The following hospitals have served this area:-

Northampton General Hospital

Bedford County Hospital.

Royal Bucks. Hospital, Aylesbury.

Tindal Hospital, Aylesbury.

Harborough Road Isolation Hospital.

Renny Lodge Hospital.

Westbury Maternity Home.

Creton Sanatorium.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. WATER SUPPLY

The town continued to be served for the purposes of water supply by the Bucks Water Board. The water supplying the town is derived from two sources, Ash Hill deep well and Foxcote. The water proved to be of the highest quality on the three occasions that samples were taken during the year by the Council.

No restrictions on the use of water were enforced during the year.

Commencing on Boxing Day, 26th December, 1962, we experienced one of the coldest weather periods for many years and in consequence before the break of this long cold spell a few householders were without a permanent supply of water available in the dwelling for a number of weeks. During January, 1963, water services and communicating pipes to a number of properties were frozen in addition to the internal water supply system. In the majority of cases it was feasible for householders to obtain water from nearby properties to which a supply was available, but it was necessary in a few instances to supply a temporary standpipe from fire hydrants for the convenience of consumers. The properties in the main that were affected by frozen pipes etc. were mainly of the older type.

Every dwelling house in the Urban District is served by the public supply although there are 16 dwellings without an internal service, these being supplied by stand pipe in the adjoining yard.

2. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

One sample of effluent was taken from the Sewage Works for examination by the Great Ouse River Board, this sample proved to be unsatisfactory as regards to suspended solids.

Four more samples were however taken by the Council in connection with the proposed Sewage Works Extension, these were again of an unsatisfactory quality.

The preliminary report regarding the extensions to the existing Sewage Works has been received from the Council's Consulting Engineers Messrs. Pick, Everard, Keay & Gimson and it is hoped that some positive action will be taken in the coming year.

On a number of occasions your Public Health Committee have discussed the resewering of the Western Area of the town (Wolverton Road) where a considerable area of residential development is under construction or for which planning consent is sought. The existing sewerage system is able to deal with the sewage discharge from the present areas of property including the M.1. Motorway Service Area during dry weather periods, but owing to the discharge of surface water into the foul sewerage system some overloading of the system must be expected during wet weather periods.

The construction of a further section of Surface Water Sewer (Lakes Lane) was completed during 1963.

There were no incidents of flooding from the Rivers Ouse and Lovat during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the Urban District.

3. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Council are still employing the 'contract system' using only two refuse collecting operatives, and this has continued to run smoothly during the year. With the purchase of the new Shelvoke and Drewry refuse collection vehicle, the length of haulage has been reduced. The refuse has been collected once per week from every premises and house in the built up area of the town and at more frequent intervals by agreement between certain business premises and this department.

The paper sack system is being gradually introduced at Council owned premises as the existing galvanised dustbin needs replacing and at all newly occupied Council houses. There are also a number of privately owned premises and dwelling houses where this system is being introduced at the expense of the occupier.

From the M.1. Motorway considerable refuse is being collected each day and at peak holiday periods it has occasionally been necessary to collect twice daily.

The Council have considered and arranged to bring into operation on 1st April, 1964 a system of house refuse collection from the outlying properties of your area including farm premises. Following the introduction of this scheme every domestic property in the Urban District will be dealt with on a weekly collection basis.

SECTION D - HOUSING ACT.

One Improvement Grant application was approved during the year together with ten Standard Grant applications.

Six Council owned dwellings were completed and occupied during the year and 88 dwellings were constructed by private enterprise.

A plan has been approved in principle to carry out the construction of a further 57 dwelling units on the Council's Broad Street Estate.

During the year a review of substandard dwellings has been carried out and a schedule of 102 dwellings (in two sections) considered by your Committee. At the present time it is estimated that the rehousing of existing occupiers and the subsequent demolition of these properties will take a period of five years. In addition to the above, the Council have adopted a comprehensive scheme of redevelopment for the Priory Street Area and at the end of the year a small portion of the site had been cleared for redevelopment by private enterprise. The Council have acquired the buildings and site of a further three dwellings with a view to redevelopment.

SECTION E

1. GENERAL

As in previous years the cleansing of classified and district highways in the town was carried out by the Urban Council. As usual this duty is undertaken entirely by manual methods by street sweeper and orderly hand truck, this service is rendered more and more difficult owing to the increase in the vehicular congested condition of the highways during normal business hours.

2. FACTORIES ACT.

There are at present 25 premises entered in the register one registered outworker. The Council's duties regarding the control of factories is now limited to practically the provision and maintenance of sanitary accommodation, cleanliness, drainage etc. and there have been no particular matters in this regard to which I have to call your attention.

3. ICE CREAM

There are 25 premises registered for the sale of ice cream and one manufacturer. Five traders operate from mobile vans, four of which operate from outside the district. Generally the vehicles are maintained in a cleanly and satisfactory condition.

4. FOOD HYGIENE

Attention of both the food trader and the public is being called to the necessity of cleanliness in regard to handling food but it must be admitted that some improvement is still possible. On a number of occasions discrepancies had to be pointed out to the traders concerned.

5. SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are no slaughterhouses existing in the town. The meat is brought in carcase form to the town from Bedford, Northampton and Luton. This system seems to service the town's needs adequately.

6. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

The Council has still retained its membership of the North Bucks Area Rodent Committee together with the Newport Pagnell Rural District and Bletchley Urban District Councils during the year.

During 1963 a total of 2,407 inspections were carried out and 143 properties were treated for infestation by rats, 49 properties were treated for infestation by mice.

7. UN SOUND FOODS

During the year the food traders of the town have been most co-operative with my Department and they have indicated a sincere desire not to sell to the public any unsound food. The following unsound foodstuffs have been surrendered by the traders and have been disposed of by the Public Health Department.

Canned Vegetables
28lb. 1 oz.

Canned Fruit
3 lb. 12 oz.

Heat & Meat Products
170 lb. 2 oz.

Milk
8 pts. 4 oz.

Fish
4 lb. 8 oz.

8. PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL.

During 1963 four samples of water were taken from your Swimming Pool; all proved to be very satisfactory.

The Pool was in public use between May and September and a total of 29,153 persons took advantage of this facility.

The weather conditions during the year were not favourable for full advantage to be taken of this facility, although there was a total of 24,947 swimmers and 4,206 spectators.

It has been discussed that heating and roofing over the Swimming Pool might be considered in the future to enable all year round use of the Pool.

SECTION F

1. GENERAL

We were not so fortunate as in 1962. We had an epidemic of Measles, an outbreak of Dysentery, fortunately of a mild type, and 2 cases of Typhoid which caused your health department a lot of worry and hard work.

2. NOTIFICATIONS

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962.</u>
Measles	78	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2
Scarlet Fever	0	4
Salmonella Infection	0	1
Dysentery	64	0
Typhoid	2	0

3. TUBERCULOSIS

One case was notified during the year, but it is satisfactory to report that there were no deaths.

4. CANCER

This disease accounted for 13 deaths during the year compared with 11 in 1962.

D.H. WALDRON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act 1937 & 1959

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspector)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspect ions (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Section, 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities /	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	25	31	3	NIL
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority/ (excluding outworkers' premises)	4	11	NIL	NIL
TOTAL.....	29	42	3	NIL

2 - Cases in which defects were found
 (Where defects have been discovered on the premises on
 2, 3 or more separate occasions they have been treated as
 two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Lack of Cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate vent- ilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drain- age of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Cons. (S.7.)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	7	7	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	7	7	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Section 110 & 111)

IN THE DISTRICT THERE WAS ONE
 REGISTERED OUTWORKER ENGAGED ON THE
 MANUFACTURE OF WOOLLEN GARMENTS.